

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number  
56/100

USGS Quad  
Boston N.

Area(s)

Form Number  
1124



Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village) Upper Meriam Hill

Address 37 Somerset Road

Historic Name

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1910?

Source Lexington Assessors

Style/Form Colonial Revival/Craftsman

Architect/Builder unknown

Willard Brown?

Exterior Material:

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim stucco/wood

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

garage

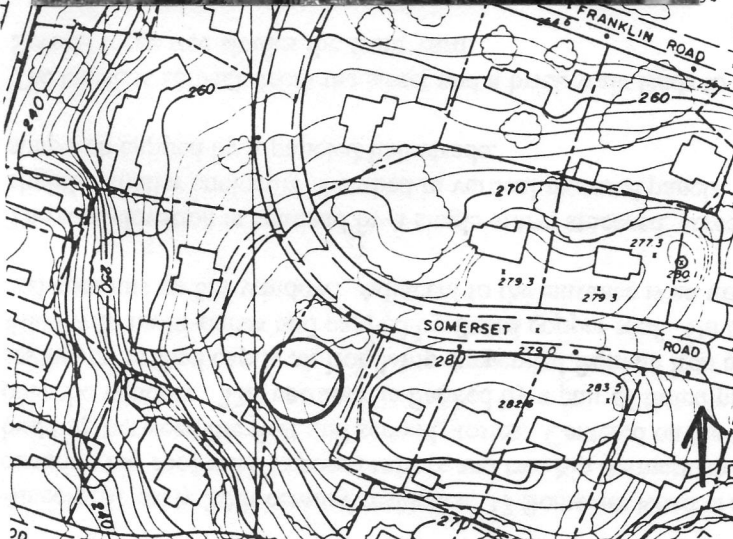
Major Alterations (with dates)

Condition good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 23,373 SF

Setting early 20th century residential neighborhood



Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month/year) May 2000

## BUILDING FORM (37 Somerset Road)

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of the building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

An eclectic early 20th century residence, 37 Somerset Road is a two-story, three bay-wide, stuccoed building capped by a complex hip roof with exposed rafters and two hip dormers on the front roof slope. A wooden band wraps around the building between the first and second stories. Centered on the three-bay facade is a glass and panel door with iron grillwork over the window. The entrance is flanked by a pair of fluted pilasters, each of which is topped by a swag. Mounted on the segmental arched cap is an iron lamp suspended from an iron arch. To the east of the entrance is a three-sided bay window filled with multi-panes and capped by flared copper roof. On the other side of the doorway, the first floor is recessed slightly and contains an 8/1 window. Adjacent to the entrance is an urn set atop a stuccoed pedestal.

The east elevation is spanned by a single-story, stuccoed, screened porch topped by corner urns. The porch is topped by a slightly smaller enclosure sheathed in vertical recessed panels. The west side of the house is fronted by a single-story sunporch capped by a paneled balustrade.

The house is setback from the street and a brick walk leads to the front door. A driveway extends to the east of the house. Several large tree shades the front yard.

The eclectic nature of this residence suggests that it may have been designed by Lexington architect Willard Brown although this could not be confirmed.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*Describe the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

(see 60 Meriam St, MHC # 388)

This land was originally part of the 400-acre Francis B. Hayes estate which extended from Adams and Hancock Streets to Woburn Street (the house known as Oakmount or The Castle was built in 1884 and demolished in 1941). This portion of the Hayes estate was laid out in houselots in 1909 with new lot numbers assigned in 1912.

The earliest assessment found for this house indicates that in 1917 Adelaid Cody owned a house at 37 Somerset valued at \$8,500 as well as a garage valued at \$800. The property included 11,320 SF of land. Adelaid's husband, Joseph was employed as a salesman in Boston. Later owners included Raymond Bond in the 1930s and early 1940s and James and Hilda Seaver from about 1950 to 1980.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lexington Assessors Records.

Lexington Directories, various dates.

Lexington Valuation Lists, various dates.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attached a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*